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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mueller, et al.)
Application No.: 10/789,372)
Filed: February 26, 2004)
For: CLOSURE DEVICE FOR A PUNCTURE CHANNEL
AND APPLICATOR DEVICE)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 17, 2004

By: Carol Prentice
Carol Prentice

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENT/PUBLICATION(S):

<u>Patent/Pub. No.</u>	<u>Patentee/Inventor</u>	<u>Date of Issue/Pub.</u>
3,874,388	King, et al.	Apr 01, 1975
5,192,301	Kamiya et al.	Mar 09, 1993
5,397,331	Himpens, et al.	Mar 14, 1995
5,545,178	Kensey et al.	Aug 13, 1996
5,853,422	Huebsch et al.	Dec 29, 1998
2002/0026094	Roth	Feb 28, 2002

The references listed above were cited by the European Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicants'

counterpart European patent application no. 04 001 059.7 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

A completed form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested. To date, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore believed to be timely filed.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 17, 2004
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-803

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (bSUPPLEMENTAL)			ATTY. DOCKET NO.: HOE-803		SERIAL NO.: 10/789,372		
			APPLICANT(S): Mueller, et al.				
			FILING DATE: February 26, 2004		GROUP:		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	3.874,388	04/01/1975	King, et al.			
	AB	5,192,301	03/09/1993	Kamiya et al.			
	AC	5,397,331	03/14/1995	Himpens, et al.			
	AD	5,545,178	08/13/1996	Kensey et al.			
	AE	5,853,422	12/29/1998	Huebsch et al.			
	AF	2002/0026094	02/28/2002	Roth			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							